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IDENTICAL LETTERS DATED 3 AUGUST 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that, between 23 and 31 July 1999, United States and British aircraft, taking off from their bases in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey, continued to violate Iraqi airspace, carrying out acts of aggression, observation and provocation, as specified in the list annexed hereto.

I should be grateful if you would intervene with the United States of America, the United Kingdom and the States which are providing them with facilities in order to commit these acts of aggression, namely, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey, with a view to halting such acts, which endanger the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Iraq and constitute blatant violations of the Charter of the United Nations and the rules of international law.

These acts continue to cause hundreds of deaths and injuries among the civilian population and material damage to private and public property. The logistical support provided by Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey to the Americans and the British makes them essential accomplices in the aggression against Iraq, and they therefore bear international responsibility for these acts. The Republic of Iraq reaffirms its right to demand reparation for the harm inflicted on the Iraqi people through the aforementioned acts.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Saeed H. HASAN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Details of violations of Iraq's airspace by United States and British aircraft and damage caused, 23-31 July 1999

1. In the northern region, 100 sorties were flown at speeds of 720 to 780 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 5,500 to 10,000 metres, over the following Iraqi cities and towns: Dohuk, Mosul, Amadiyah, Aqrah, Tall Afar, Irbil, Zakho, Baibo, Ayn Zalah, Tall Kayf, Sinjar, Rawanduz and Ba'shiqah.

2. In the southern region, 242 sorties were flown at speeds of 720 to 780 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 8,000 to 12,000 metres, over the following Iraqi cities and towns: Nasiriyah, Samawah, Basra, Amarah, Artawi, Jalibah, Salman, Busayyah, Lasaf, Qurnah, Afak, Qal'at Salih, Qala't Sukkar, Rifa'i, Ushbayjah, Shinafiyah, Qadisiyah, Ali al-Sharqi, Hayy, Tall al-Lahm, Hawr al-Hammar, Maymunah, Rumaythah, Taqtaqanah, Shu'aybah, Najaf, Shatrah, Ansab, Rifa'i and Umm Qasr.

3. At 1755 hours on 23 July 1999, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-18 and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory, supported by two AWACS command and control aircraft from inside Saudi and Kuwaiti airspace, penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 18 sorties, 8 from Saudi airspace and 10 from Kuwaiti airspace. The aircraft overflew the Nasiriyah, Samawah, Basra, Busayyah, Artawi and west Hayy areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1845 hours, drove them off.

4. At 0645 hours on 25 July 1999, formations of United States and British aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. These formations included F-14s, F-15s, F-16s, F-18s, Tornadoes and EA-6B aircraft, and were supported by two AWACS command and control aircraft from inside Saudi airspace. They carried out 33 sorties from Saudi airspace, overflying the Salman, Ushbayjah, Ma'aniyah and Najaf areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1030 hours, drove them off.

5. At 1002 hours on 26 July 1999, United States and British aircraft coming from Turkish territory and supported by an AWACS early warning aircraft from inside Turkish airspace penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 16 sorties, overflying the Irbil, Dohuk, Aqrah, Tall Afar and Rawanduz areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1315 hours, drove them off.

6. At 0645 hours on 26 July 1999, formations of United States and British aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. These formations included F-14s, F-15s, F-16s, Tornadoes and EA-6B aircraft, and were supported by two AWACS command and control aircraft from inside Saudi airspace. The aircraft carried out 25 sorties from Saudi airspace, overflying the Lasaf, Ushbayjah and Salman areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 0910 hours, drove them off.

7. At 1000 hours on 27 July 1999, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They were supported by an AWACS early warning aircraft from inside Turkish airspace. The aircraft carried out 20 sorties, overflying the Irbil, Dohuk, Aqrah, Tall Afar and Baibo areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1305 hours, drove them off.

8. At 0630 hours on 27 July 1999, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16 and Tornado aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region, supported by one AWACS and one E-2C command and control aircraft from inside Saudi airspace. They carried out 18 sorties, all from Saudi airspace. The aircraft overflew the Salman, Ushbayjah and Ma'aniyah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1035 hours, drove them off.

9. At 1040 hours on 28 July 1999, formations of United States and British aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. Supported by an AWACS early warning aircraft from inside Turkish airspace, the aircraft carried out 22 sorties, overflying the Rawanduz, Dohuk, Aqrah, Sinjar, Mosul and Zakho areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1340 hours, drove them off.

10. At 0640 hours on 28 July 1999, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-18 and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region, supported by one AWACS command and control aircraft from inside Saudi airspace. The aircraft carried out 22 sorties from Saudi airspace, overflying the Ma'aniyah, Salman, Lasaf, Ushbayjah and Taqtaqanah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1020 hours, drove them off.

11. At 0640 hours on 29 July 1999, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-18, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region, supported by one AWACS and one E-2C command and control aircraft from inside Saudi airspace. The aircraft carried out 20 sorties from Saudi airspace, overflying the Nu'maniyah, Samawah, Salman, Kut, Shaykh Sa'd, Razzazah, Malawthiyat and Lasaf areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 0828 hours, drove them off.

12. At 1010 hours on 30 July 1999, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory, supported by one AWACS and one E-2C command and control aircraft from inside Saudi airspace, penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. The aircraft carried out 56 sorties, 32 from Saudi airspace and 24 from Kuwaiti airspace, overflying the Basra, Ukhaydir, Samawah, Salman, Busayyah, Jalibah, Shinafiyah, Qurnah, Lasaf, Afak and Nu'maniyah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1155 hours, drove them off.

13. At 1100 hours on 30 July 1999, formations of United States and British aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. Supported by an AWACS early warning aircraft from inside Turkish airspace, the aircraft carried out 42 sorties, overflying the Rawanduz,

Dohuk, Aqrah, Sinjar, Mosul and Zakho areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1405 hours, drove them off.

14. At 0930 hours on 31 July 1999, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory, supported by one AWACS and one E-2C command and control aircraft from inside Saudi airspace, penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. The aircraft carried out 50 sorties, 36 from Saudi airspace and 14 from Kuwaiti airspace, overflying the Samawah, Salman, Busayyah, Jalibah, Shinafiyah, Qala't Sukkar and Nasiriyah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1325 hours, drove them off.